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### NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

45993 7590 01/14/2011 IBM CORPORATION (RHF)

C/O ROBERT H. FRANTZ P. O. BOX 23324 OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73123 EXAMINER

GRAHAM, CLEMENT B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3691 DATE MAILED: 01/14/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/726,009	11/29/2000	Leland James Wiesehuegel	AUS9-2000-0738-US1	9657

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ONLINE OFFER AND BID MANAGEMENT WITH SEALED BIDS

 APPLN.TYPE
 SMALL ENTITY
 ISSUE FEE DUE
 PUBLICATION FEE DUE
 PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE
 TOTAL FEES) DUE
 DATE DUE

 nonprovisional
 NO
 \$1510
 \$300
 \$0
 \$1810
 04/14/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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# Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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INSTRUCTIONS: This appropriate. All further indicated unless correcte maintenance fee notificat	form should be used I correspondence including d below or directed off tions.	or trans ng the I nerwise	smitting the ISSU atent, advance or in Block 1, by (a	JE FEE and PUBLICA rders and notification of i) specifying a new con	TIC f ma resp	ON FEE (if requi aintenance fees w ondence address;	red). E ill be a and/or	locks 1 through 5 s mailed to the current (b) indicating a sepa	rould be corresponded rate "FI	completed where ondence address as E ADDRESS" for
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IBM CORPORATION (RHF) C/O ROBERT H. FRANTZ P. O. BOX 23324				I Si ac tr	Certificate of Mailing or Transmission  I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.					
OKLAHOMA C	TTY, OK 73123			Г						(Depositor's name)
				Г						(Signature)
										(Date)
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	П		FIRST NAMED INVENTO	OR		ATTO	RNEY DOCKET NO.	CONF	TRMATION NO.
09/726,009	11/29/2000			Leland James Wiesehue	gel		AUS	9-2000-0738-US1		9657
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APPLN, TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISS	SUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DU	Ε :	PREV. PAID ISSUE	FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE		DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO		\$1510	\$300	_	\$0		\$1810		04/14/2011
EXAM	INER		ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS						
GRAHAM, C	LEMENT B		3691	705-037000						
"Fee Address" indi PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-0 Number is required.  3. ASSIGNEE NAME A	ess an assignee is ident h in 37 CFR 3.11. Comp	" Indica icd. Use A TO BI	tion form of a Customer E PRINTED ON	(1) the names of up or agents OR, alterns (2) the name of a sin registered attorney of 2 registered patent at listed, no name will ITHE PATENT (print or data will appear on the T a substitute for filing a (B) RESIDENCE: (CT.	ative ngle or ag ttorn be p type pat an as	firm (having as a gent) and the nammeys or agents. If a wrinted.	membes of up no nam	er a 2		has been filed for
Please check the appropri	iate assignee category or	categor	ries (will not be pr	inted on the patent):	<b>0</b> 1	Individual 🗖 Co	rporati	on or other private gro	up entit	y Government
4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:    Issue Fee   Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)   Advance Order - # of Copies			d)	B. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)    A check is enclosed.   Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.   The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number (enclose an extra copy of this form).						
	s SMALL ENTITY state	ıs. See 3	37 CFR 1.27.	☐ b. Applicant is no le						
NOTE: The Issue Fee and interest as shown by the r	d Publication Fee (if req records of the United Sta	uired) w ites Pate	rill not be accepted int and Trademark	d from anyone other that Office.	n the	e applicant; a regi	stered a	ttorney or agent; or th	e assign	ee or other party in
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This collection of informan application. Confident submitting the completed this form and/or suggestit Box 1450, Alexandria, V Alexandria, Virginia 223	ation is required by 37 C itality is governed by 35 I application form to the ons for reducing this bu irginia 22313-1450. DO 13-1450.	U.S.C. U.S.C. USPTO rden, sh O NOT S	11. The informatic 122 and 37 CFR O. Time will vary ould be sent to the SEND FEES OR	on is required to obtain of 1.14. This collection is depending upon the in- e Chief Information Off COMPLETED FORMS	or ret estir divic icer TO	tain a benefit by the mated to take 12 r dual case. Any co , U.S. Patent and THIS ADDRESS	ne publ ninutes mment Traden . SENI	ic which is to file (and to complete, includin s on the amount of ti- nark Office, U.S. Depo O TO: Commissioner	by the g gather ne you r artment of for Pater	JSPTO to process) ing, preparing, and equire to complete of Commerce, P.O. nts, P.O. Box 1450,

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C/O ROBERT H. I	FRANTZ	ART UNIT PAPER NUMBI			
P. O. BOX 23324			3691		

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2011

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 955 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 955 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/726,009	WIESEHUEGEL ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Clament B. Graham	3601	

The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on It. All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR RENETIS IS OR RENETIS IS OR A CONTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THE Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MP.	MAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiativ				
. This communication is responsive to 3/10/2010.					
2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13 and 15-31.					
Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U     a) All b) Some* o) None of the:     1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been re     2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been re     3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents international Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * Certified copies not received:	ceived.				
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this conted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of t THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.					
<ul> <li>A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Not INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reasor</li> </ul>					
. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTC-948) attached  1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date  (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date					
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) sheach sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header	ould be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of r according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
<ul> <li>DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of Bid attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE</li> </ul>					
Attachment(s) . ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) . ☑ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) . ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/09), Paper No./Mail Date 11/29/10, 11/19/10 . ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	5. Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. Other				
/Hani M. Kazimi/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691					

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### ALLOWANCE

Claims 13, 15-31 are allowable over the art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for indication of allowable subject matter. The prior art fails to teach, or suggest, the limitations of:

"(A sealed bid sales offering system comprising:

a bid database in a network computer arrangement containing collected bids, said collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid, a database query server querying said bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, said trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a bidder user console and broker user console, said trader console operating to buy products or services from said broker user console, and operating to resell said bought products and services to said bidder user console;

a bid transferor responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for said trader console delivering said matching unsealed bids to said trader console, and preventing delivery of sealed bids to said trader console and a display on said trader console of said delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user) as recited in the instant claims.

Miller et al (US Patent No: 5, 640, 569) taken alone or in combination with others fail to teach or suggest "A sealed bid sales offering system comprising:

a bid database in a network computer arrangement containing collected bids, said collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid, a database query server querying said bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, said trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a bidder user console and

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broker user console, said trader console operating to buy products or services from said broker user console, and operating to resell said bought products and services to said bidder user console; a bid transferor responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for said trader console delivering said matching unsealed bids to said trader console, and preventing delivery of sealed bids to said trader console and a display on said trader console of said delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user" as recited in the instant claims.

Goldberg et al (US Patent No: 6, 985, 885) taken alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest" A sealed bid sales offering system comprising:

a bid database in a network computer arrangement containing collected bids, said collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid, a database query server querying said bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, said trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a bidder user console and broker user console, said trader console operating to buy products or services from said broker user console, and operating to resell said bought products and services to said bidder user console; a bid transferor responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for said trader console delivering said matching unsealed bids to said trader console and a display on said trader console of said delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user "as recited in the instant claims."

Online: Make a name for yourself on the net: As new countries get their internet domains, it opens up a whole new world for astute dealers in company titles. Richard Heller. The Guardian. Manchester (UK): Oct 26, 2000. pg. 12) fails to teach or suggest "A sealed bid sales offering system comprising:

a bid database in a network computer arrangement containing collected bids, said collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid, a database query server querying said bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, said trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a

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bidder user console and broker user console, said trader console operating to buy products or services from said broker user console, and operating to resell said bought products and services to said bidder user console:

a bid transferor responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for said trader console delivering said matching unsealed bids to said trader console, and preventing delivery of sealed bids to said trader console and a display on said trader console of said delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user "as recited in the instant claims.

### Conclusion

 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clement Graham whose telephone number is 571-272-6795. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am to 5pm from 7:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CG

7/15/10

/Hani M. Kazimi/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691

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### 1 - 12 (cancelled)

- 13. (currently amended) A sealed bid sales offering system comprising:
- a bid database in a network computer arrangement containing collected bids, [[said]] the collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid;
- a database query server querying [[said]] the bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, [[said]] the trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a bidder user console and broker user console, [[said]] the trader console operating to buy products or services from [[said]] the broker user console, and operating to resell [[said]] the bought products and services to [[said]] the bidder user console.
- a bid transferor responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for [[said]] the trader console delivering [[said]] the matching unsealed bids to [[said]] the trader console, and preventing delivery of sealed bids to [[said]] the trader console; and
- a display on [[said]] the trader console of [[said]] the delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user.

### 14. (cancelled)

- 15. (currently amended) The sealed bid sales offering system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the database query server comprises an Internet server.
- 16. (currently amended) The sealed bid sales offering system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the database query server comprises a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.
  17. (currently amended) The sealed bid sales offering system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the
- 17. (currently amended) The sealed bid sales offering system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the trader console comprises a web browser.
- 18. (currently amended) The system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the database query server retrieves unsealed bids from [[said]] the bid database which meet criteria including a trader's location code.
- 19. (currently amended) The system as set forth in Claim 13 wherein [[said]] the database query server retrieves unsealed bids from [[said]] the bid database which meet criteria including a match with a trader's goods category code.
- 20. (currently amended) The system as set forth in Claim 13 further comprising a restricted access administrator console communicative with [[said]] the bid database converting sealed bids to unsealed bids.
- 21. (currently amended) The system as set forth in Claim 13 further comprising a system clock or timer determining which seals of sealed bids have expired as a criteria for retrieving unsealed bids.
- 22. (currently amended) A sealed bid sales offering method comprising: providing collected bids in a bid database in a network computer arrangement, [[said]] the collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is

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an unsealed bid:

querying by a database query server [[said]] the bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, [[said]] the trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console communicably disposed between a bidder user console and broker user console:

operating by [[said]] the trader console to buy products or services from [[said]] the broker user console:

operating by [[said]] the trader to resell [[said]] the bought products and services to [[said]] the bidder user console:

responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for [[said]] the trader console, delivering by a bid transferor [[said]] the matching unsealed bids to [[said]] the trader console wherein

delivery of delivery of sealed bids to [[said]] the trader console is prevented; and displaying on [[said]] the trader console [[said]] the delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user.

- 23. (currently amended) The method as set forth in Claim 22 wherein [[said]] the querying comprises a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) query.
- 24. (currently amended) The method as set forth in Claim 22 further comprising providing a web browser trader console.
- 26. (currently amended) The method as set forth in Claim 22 wherein [[said]] the querying comprises retrieving unsealed bids from [[said]] the bid database which meet criteria including a match with a trader's goods category code.
- 27. (currently amended) The method as set forth in Claim 22 further comprising providing a restricted access administrator console communicative with [[said]] the bid database, and converting sealed bids to unsealed bids by [[said]] the administrator console.
- 28. (currently amended) The method as set forth in Claim 22 further comprising using a system clock or timer to determine which seals of sealed bids have expired as a criteria for retrieving unsealed bids.
- 29. (currently amended) A computer readable memory comprising: a computer readable memory suitable for encoding computer programs; and one or more computer programs encoded by [[said]] the computer readable memory and configured to:

provide collected bids in a bid database in a network computer arrangement, [[said]] the collected bids each having an associated seal status indication field for indicating whether each bid is a sealed bid or is an unsealed bid:

query by a database query server [[said]] the bid database for unsealed bids which match parameters of a Broker Profile Matrix associated with a trader console, [[said]] the trader console comprising an intermediary third party user console

communicably disposed between a bidder user console and broker user console; operate by [[said]] the trader console to buy products or services from [[said]] the broker user console:

operating by [[said]] the trader to resell [[said]] the bought products and services to [[said]] the bidder user console:

responsive to finding matching unsealed bids for [[said]] the trader console, deliver by a bid transferor [said]] the matching unsealed bids to [[said]] the trader console wherein delivery of delivery of sealed bids to [[said]] the trader console is prevented; and

display on [[said]] the trader console [[said]] the delivered matching unsealed bids to a trader console user.

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30. (currently amended) The computer readable memory as set forth in Claim 29 wherein [[said]] the querying comprises retrieving unsealed bids from [[said]] the bid database which meet criteria including a trader's location code.

31. (currently amended) The computer readable memory as set forth in Claim 29 wherein [[said]] the querying comprises retrieving unsealed bids from [[said]] the bid database which meet criteria including a match with a trader's goods category code.